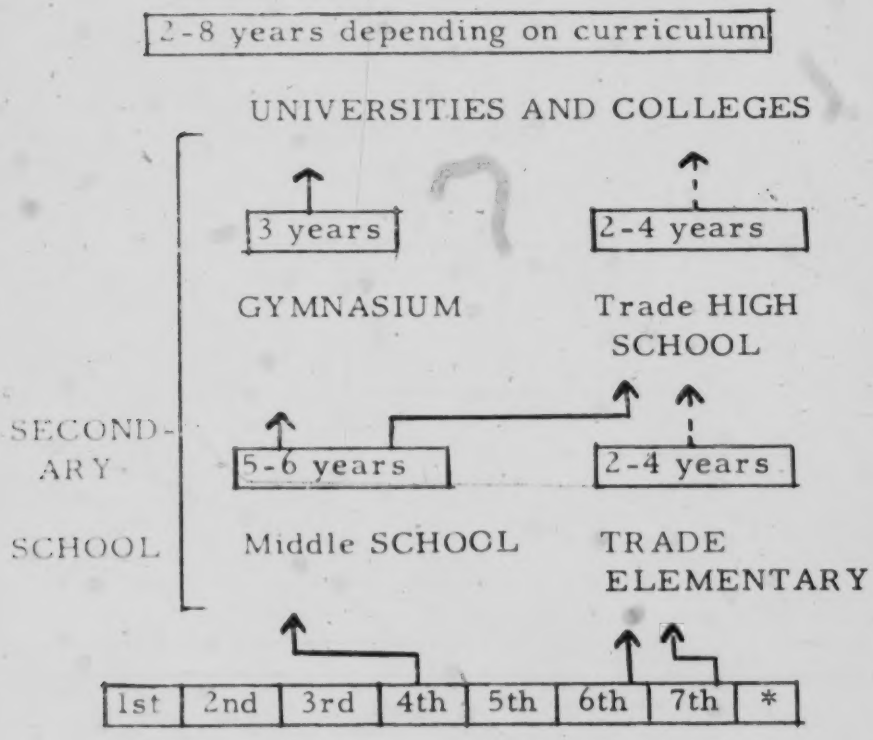
871 between the ages of seven to sixteen must attend school. The following scheme shows the stages and the interrelations in the Finnish educational system:



Primary School

*Continuation School

872 The primary school, called the folk school, is municipal, and every commune must provide

812 schools enough for all children in the compulsory age group to attend and at a distance which will not be too great for daily travel. Everything is free, including tuition, books and other supplies, health care and a warm meal once a day. The primary schools are co-educational and have seven grades, with an additional year of continuation classes. The basic skills of reading, writing and arithmetic are learned in the two lowest grades; after this, the curriculum is broadened with geography, history, nature study and special classes in handicraft. Religion, of course, is taught through all grades in the primary as well as in secondary school, and increasing attention is given to the so-called "free subjects," such as music, drawing and sports.

000 All children complete four grades of folk